

# Mary MacKillop painting by Aboriginal artist Hector Chundaloo

Mary MacKillop had a love for aboriginal people. She would be part of the aboriginal people's struggle today.

Hector Chundaloo was born in Turkey Creek in the Warmun Community in the Kimberley. He was a talented bush artist, Dreamtime story teller, station hand and a stockcamp cook on many cattle drives out of Texas Downs and Rosewood Stations, en-route to the facilities at Wyndham. He died in 2006.



Hector's painting of Mary MacKillop has Mary, at the centre of the picture who is the Manampurra, the dreamtime person, a spiritual leader, as special lady like Our Lady, Jesus' mother. The bush tucker minyjiwarra (bush plum tree) on either side of Mary is a sign of how her spirit nourishes the Australian people, of how she follows the Ngapuny way (God's way). Mary calls us to follow her spirit and join her in heaven when we die. The hill country represents her different camping places here on earth.

'Mary MacKillop had a love for aboriginal people. She would be part of the aboriginal people's struggle today.

She was a great lady for Aboriginal people. She had hard times, so do we have hard times and she can help us in these hard times particularly in the political issues of this time. Follow her in a Ngapuny way.'

Reflection by Gabriel Nodea

A Dreamtime Hero  
in our place  
Kamerre.  
Our land,  
country for you and me.  
Land  
where our spirit  
roam free.  
Our home.

Note: Kamerre is the Kija word for Australia.

Reflection by Rich Thomas